

SENATE BILL REPORT

HB 1121

As Reported by Senate Committee On:
Government Operations & Elections, March 17, 2009

Title: An act relating to creating the Washington state flag account.

Brief Description: Creating the Washington state flag account.

Sponsors: Representatives Rodne, Bailey, Kelley, Moeller, Ross, Simpson, McCoy, Hope, Green, Ormsby, Johnson, Morrell, Smith, Campbell, Armstrong and Conway; by request of Secretary of State and Joint Committee on Veterans' and Military Affairs.

Brief History: Passed House: 2/23/09, 95-0.

Committee Activity: Government Operations & Elections: 3/17/09 [DP].

SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & ELECTIONS

Majority Report: Do pass.

Signed by Senators Fairley, Chair; Oemig, Vice Chair; Roach, Ranking Minority Member; McDermott, Pridemore and Swecker.

Staff: Edward Redmond (786-7471)

Background: The Secretary of the State may solicit and accept gifts, grants, conveyances, bequests, and devises of real or personal property for investing, selling, or using these donations and proceeds for four specific purposes: (1) conducting oral histories; (2) archival activities; (3) Washington State Library activities; and (4) development, construction, and operation of the Washington State Heritage Center.

The Office of the Secretary of State (OSOS) regularly receives requests from citizens and organizations wanting to donate Washington State flags to state military personnel. Currently, the OSOS does not have the authority to accept contributions for the donation of state flags.

Summary of Bill: The OSOS may solicit and receive money to purchase and donate Washington State flags. Monies received for the donation of Washington State flags will be deposited in the Washington State Flag Account in the custody of the State Treasurer. Funds from the Flag Account may only be used for the purpose of donating Washington State flags to Washington State military personnel.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony: PRO: The nonzero but indeterminable cost estimate only reflects a miniscule cost for the processing of flag requests. The Secretary of State regularly receives requests from military personnel to donate Washington State flags. The committee heard and passed, unanimously, the companion Senate Bill 5053.

Persons Testifying: PRO: Megan Moreno, Secretary of State; Oscar B. Hilman, Veterans Legislative Coalition.